GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:759
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
BT. COTTON SEEDS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bt. Cotton seeds has been found suitable for cotton cultivation in some States;

(b) if so, the extent thereof, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the supply of Bt. Cotton seeds as per its demand, during the last two years and the current year; and

(d) the details of the progress made in production of cotton as a result thereof. State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): Bt. Cotton is the only Genetically Modified crop approved for commercial cultivation in the country Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment & Forests on the basis of bio-safely and suitability for different regions of the country. The extent of area under Bt. Cotton cultivation is as under:

(Area in ha.)

States	Kharif-2002	Kharif-2003	Kharif-2004	Kharif-2005
Andhra Pradesh	3762	5400	70400	330000
Madhya Pradesh	1470	13200	85119	134639
Gujarat	9031	41200	124463	149317
Maharashtra	12280	21600	159600	488000
Karnataka	2160	3000	33906	27909
Tamilnadu	370	7600	11856	17800
Punjab	-	-	-	72000
Haryana	-	-	-	12000
Rajasthan	-	-	-	2281
Total	29073	92000	492544	1233946

The area under Bt. Cotton crop during kharif-2006-07 is estimated to be about 34.40 lakh hectares. The exponential increase in area under Bt. Cotton cultivation in nine States reflects its suitability and acceptability among farmers.

(c)&(d): Bt. Cotton seeds in India are produced and marketed by private seed companies. State Governments have reported 15 to 30% increase in yields due to use of Bt. Cotton seeds. Details of area, production and yield in cotton growing States are given below:

Year	Area (lakh ha.)		Production (Lakh bales)		Lint yield (kg. Per ha.)	
	Bt. Cotton	Total Cotton				
2002-03	0.29	76.70	86.24	191		

2003-04 0.92 75.98 137.29 307
2004-05 4.92 87.87 164.29 318
2005-06 12.34 86.77 184.99 362
2006-07(prov.) 34.40 91.98 209.66 389